

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/750,812

Examiner

KIEU-OANH BUI

Applicant(s)

ELDERING ET AL.

Art Unit

2623

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the appeal brief filed on 03/13/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 18-34.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

KIEU-OANH BUI  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Appeal Brief***

1. By filing an appeal brief, applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.

### ***Remark***

2. Claims 1-17 have been previously cancelled. Claims 18-34 are pending for reconsideration.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 18-34 have been allowed.

### ***Reasons for Allowance***

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior arts of record issued to Bryant et al., Unold et al. and Eldering either alone or in a combination fails to teach or suggest the present invention for a an advertisement management system for managing advertisement opportunities or avails in a television network environment, the system comprising: an advertisement opportunities recognition module configured to recognize advertisement opportunities, each advertisement opportunity having an expected viewership; a subavail generation module configured to create a plurality of subavails based on the recognized advertisement

opportunities, wherein each subavail is directed at a target audience group and each subavail is associated with a portion of the expected viewership of its corresponding advertisement opportunity, and a grouping module configured to create one or more groups of subavails by aggregating the plurality of subavails from at least two of the advertisement opportunities, wherein at least one of the groups of subavails has a total expected viewership greater than or equal to the expected viewership of one of the advertisement opportunities from which the subavails in the at least one group originated as claimed in claim 29 and its corresponding method as in claim 18.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

**5. Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**or faxed to PTO New Central Fax number:**

**(571) 273-8300, (for Technology Center 2600 only)**

*Hand deliveries must be made to Customer Service Window,  
Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.*

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Krista Kieu-Oanh Bui whose telephone number is (571) 272-7291. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30 AM to 7:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Miller, can be reached at (571) 272-7353.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kieu-Oanh Bui', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Kieu-Oanh Bui  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2623

KB  
Dec. 6, 2007